

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 07263 041524Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13

ACDA-07 /073 W

-----084678 041526Z /53

O R 041451Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1901

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 7263

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, CY, GR

SUBJECT: GREECE MOURNS THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT MAKARIOS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. GREECE HAS JOINED CYPRUS IN MOURNING THE DEATH OF CYPRIOT PRESIDENT ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS. PRESIDENT TSATSOS WILL REPRESENT THE GREEK NATION AT MAKARIOS' FUNERL IN NICOSIA ON MONDAY, AND WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND RELIGIONS GEORGE RALLIS WHO WILL REPRESENT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. (FORMER PRIME MINISTER KANELLOPOULOS AND MOST OPPOSITION LEADERS HAVE ANNOUNCED THEY WILL FLY TO CYPRUS TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL.) FLAGS WILL FLY AT HALF MAST THROUGHOUT GREECE UNTIL THE FUNERAL, AND RADIO AND TV HAVE BEEN LARGELY GIVEN OVER TO CLASSICAL MUSIC AND PROGRAMMING RELATED TO MAKARIOS' LIFE AND HIS POLITICAL STRUGGLES FOR CYPRUS. THE PRESS, LIKEWISE, IS FULLY DOMINATED BY THE PASSING OF MAKARIOS. SPECULATION AS TO WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT NOW HOLD FOR CYPRUS HAS SO FAR BEEN RELATIVELY LOW KEY. EDITORIALY, THE NEWSPAPERS UNANIMOUSLY STRESS THE NEED FOR UNITY AMONG THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE IN CONFRONTING THE FUTURE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ATHENS 07263 041524Z

2. ALL POLITICAL LEADERS HAVE ISSUED PUBLIC EULOGIES. PRESIDENT TSATSOS DESCRIBED MAKARIOS' DEATH AS A "FRESH AND UNEXPECTED BLOW" TO CYPRUS AND PRAISED THE ARCHBISHOP FOR HIS WISE HANDLING OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE. PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS STATED THE DEMISE OF THE ARCHBISHOP WAS A CAUSE FOR GRIEF TO GREEKS EVERYWHERE, CALLED FOR UNITY

AMONG THE CYPRIOTS AND PLEDGED CONTINUED FIRM GREEK SUPPORT TO THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE. PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION LEADER GEORGE MAVROS (UDC) SAID THAT AFTER ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS, "MAKARIOS WAS THE SECOND LEADER IN OUR CENTURY TO HAVE GAINED INTERNATIONAL RENOWN" AND COMMENTED THAT THE ARCHBISHOP HAD WRITTEN ONE OF THE "FINEST PAGES IN GREEK HISTORY" AND PERHAPS IN WORLD HISTORY. PASOK LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU SAID NOT ONLY GREEKS, BUT ALL PEOPLE "ENSLAVED BY THE SHACKLES OF IMPERIALISM" HAD SUFFERED A GREAT LOSS, AND PROMISED THAT MAKARIOS' "VISION" WOULD COME TRUE.

3. THE MEDIA HAVE DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE SPACE TO THE CONDOLENCES SENT TO ACTING CYPRIOT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU BY VARIOUS WORLD LEADERS. PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE RECEIVED GOOD COVERAGE, AS DID SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENT AT THE AIRPORT IN BEIRUT. THE RADIO BROADCAST RECORDED COMMENTS BY VARIOUS AMERICANS, INCLUDING SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE CLARK CLIFFORD, SENATOR SARBANES, CONGRESSMAN BRADEMANS AND OTHERS. THE MEDIA MENTIONED FORMER TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT'S CONDOLENCE STATEMENT AND NOTED THE ABSENCE OF ANY GOT COMMENT.

4. RADIO AND TV GAVE PROMINENT PLAY TO WHAT WAS DESCRIBED AS THE LAST INTERVIEW WITH MAKARIOS (BY AN ATHENS NEWS AGENCY CORRESPONDENT, SHORTLY BEFORE MAKARIOS' DEATH), WHICH WAS ALSO REPORTED IN THE PRESS. THE ARCHBISHOP IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT WITH REGARD TO A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT "EVERYTHING WILL DEPEND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ATHENS 07263 041524Z

ON THE UNITED STATES." SINCE ONLY THE U.S. WAS IN A POSITION TO WORK FOR A PEACEFUL AND JUST SOLUTION. THE ARMS EMBARGO, HE ADDED, WAS A MOST EFFECTIVE MEASURE WHICH HE DID NOT THINK WOULD BE LIFTED UNLESS TURKEY MADE CONCESSIONS.

5. NEXT MONDAY A SPECIAL MASS WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE ATHENS CATHEDRAL WHICH WILL COINCIDE WITH THE MAKARIOS FUNERAL IN NICOSIA. THE PRIME MINISTE AND HIS CABINET ARE SCHEDULED TO ATTEND. THE GOG HAS ANNOUNCED THAT GOVERNMENT OFFICES, BANKS AND OTHER PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS WILL BE CLOSED THAT DAY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

6. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. THE OFFICIAL ASPECTS OF MOURNING ASIDE, MAKARIOS' PASSING HAS MADE A DEEP AND WIDE-SPREAD IMPACT ON THE GREEK PEOPLE. IN THE PUBLIC OUTPOURING OF GRIEF AND CONCERN THAT HAS FOLLOWED HIS DEATH HERE, THE DIFFERENCES AND UNHAPPY EPISODES OF THE PAST HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE. INSTEAD THE EMPHASIS IS ALL ON THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE LATE PRESIDENT'S LIFE IN THE CAUSE OF CYPRUS. THE GREAT CONCERN HERE NOW IS WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT IN CYPRUS, RECOGNIZING THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO FIND A SUCCESSOR WITH ANYTHING LIKE MAKARIOS' STATURE. FOR THEIR PART, HOWEVER, THE GREEKS SEE THIS AS A

PROBLEM THE GREEK CYPRIOTS THEMSELVES MUST SOLVE AND ARE URGING
CYPRIOT UNITY IN CONFRONTING THE FUTURE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL
USE.
MILLS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, DEATHS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ATHENS07263
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770279-0910
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770899/aaaadfpk.tel
Line Count: 120
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 03b5fc61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1714016
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREECE MOURNS THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT MAKARIOS
TAGS: PGOV, CY, GR, (MAKARIOS III)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/03b5fc61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009